

From: pricerob@mac.com@inetgw
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/26/02 12:53am
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

Dear Sir or Madam

I find it absurd that Microsoft should be permitted to provide to public institutions their operating system and other software as well as hardware that is specific to running their operating system in lieu of a pure cash settlement. Accepting this settlement offer only strengthens Microsoft's monopolistic position and paves the way for further abuses within an environment in which they are not historically strong (i.e. schools). In the long run this will stifle innovation and contribute to a lack of diversity of computer operating systems and hardware. This in turn will make the computing infrastructure more vulnerable to cyber attack and the damage such an attack would produce would be more severe.

I urge you to resist the proposed settlement and make the settlement for their illegal activities a true and just settlement which will undo some of the harm Microsoft has inflicted on the computer industry and on consumers. Do not be taken in by this transparent attempt by Microsoft to turn their defeat into their victory.

Sincerely

Robert Price
Research Scientist